VZCZCXRO4117 OO RUEHPA DE RUEHOS #0318 0602031 ZNY CCCCC ZZH O 012031Z MAR 06 FM AMCONSUL LAGOS TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6702 INFO RUEHZK/ECOWAS COLLECTIVE IMMEDIATE RUEHUJA/AMEMBASSY ABUJA IMMEDIATE 6971 RUEHBK/AMEMBASSY BANGKOK IMMEDIATE 0080 RUEHEG/AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE 0128 RUEHDK/AMEMBASSY DAKAR IMMEDIATE 0687 RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE 0562 RUEHML/AMEMBASSY MANILA IMMEDIATE 0102 RUEPGDA/USEUCOM JIC VAIHINGEN GE IMMEDIATE RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE RHEBAAA/DEPT OF ENERGY WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE RUCPDOC/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHDC IMMEDIATE RHEFDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHDC IMMEDIATE RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL LAGOS 000318

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STATE PASS DOE FOR DAS JBRODMAN AND CGAY
TREASURY FOR ASEVERENS AND SRENENDER
COMMERCE FOR KBURRESS
STATE PASS TRANSPORTATION FOR MARAD
STATE PASS USAID FOR GWEYNAND AND SLAWAETZ
STATE FOR DS/IP/AF, AF/EX, DS/IP/OPO, DS/ICI/PII, DS/DSS/ITA

E.O. 12958: DECL: 02/28/2016

TAGS: EPET PGOV ASEC PTER KHLS PINR ETRD CASC NI SUBJECT: NIGERIA: HOSTAGE-TAKING, SITREP # 14

REF: LAGOS 317 AND PREVIOUS

Classified By: Acting Pol/Econ Chief Shannon Ross for reasons 1.4 (D/E).

Six Hostages Released; 2 Amcits, 1 Brit Still Held Hostage

11. (C) Five other hostages were released this evening to foreign journalists, and are currently at Delta State Governor Ibori's Warri lodge. AmCits Russell Spell and Cody Oswalt, along with Briton John Hudspith have not been released. Shell has made arrangements for them to stay overnight at the Shell medical clinic in Warri and to transport all six of the released hostages to Lagos by a Shell plane tomorrow.

MEND List of Demands Extensive

¶2. (C) An unconfirmed list of demands from the Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND) was sent to Post via Academic Associates Peaceworks Director Judy Asuni. The various demands include: 1) the immediate release of Asari Dokubo, Diapreye Alamieyeseigha, Ebitimi Banigo, and Joshua Macalva, 2) resignation of Petroleum Resources Minister Edmund Daukoru and Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) Managing Director Funso Kupolokun, 3) disbandment of the Joint Task Force code named Operation Restore Hope, 4) rural development of the Niger Delta communities, and 5) greater participation of Ijaws in the oil and gas industry. The demands are much more extensive than those made previously.

MEND Threatens Attack on Oil Industry

¶3. (SBU) Meanwhile, through the international media, MEND released additional threats against the Nigerian oil industry and said they would concentrate its resources on a "huge crippling blow," and claimed they would strike "to ensure the total discontinuation of export of onshore crude oil."